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Application No. 10/736,656

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1 – 21 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 – 4, 7, 12 – 14, 17, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jones et al (US Patent No. 6,530,655) ("Jones"). These rejections are respectfully traversed. The Examiner has indicated that claims 8 and 15 are allowable. Applicant has amended claims 1, 14, and 21 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 8 and 15. Therefore claims 1, 14, and 15 should be allowable. Claims 2 – 4, 7, 12, 13, 17, and 20 should be allowable if claims 1 and 14 are allowable because claims 2 – 4, 7, 12, and 13 depend from claim 1, and claims 17 and 20 depend from claim 14.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 5 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones in view of Allen et al (US Patent No. 5,406,315) ("Allen"). These rejections are respectfully traversed. Claims 5 and 16 should be allowed if claims 1 and 14 are allowed as claim 5 depends from claim 1 and claim 16 depends from claim 14.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 6, 8 – 11, 15, 18, and 20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 8 and 15 have been canceled and their limitations added to claims 1 and 14. In view of the amendments Applicant has made to claims 1 and 14, claims 6, 9 – 11, 18, and 20 should be allowed.

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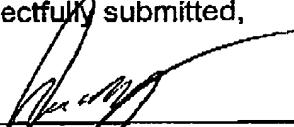
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Conclusion

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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JMY/rjc